

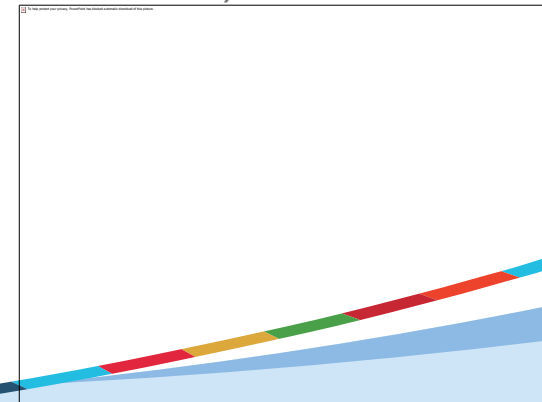
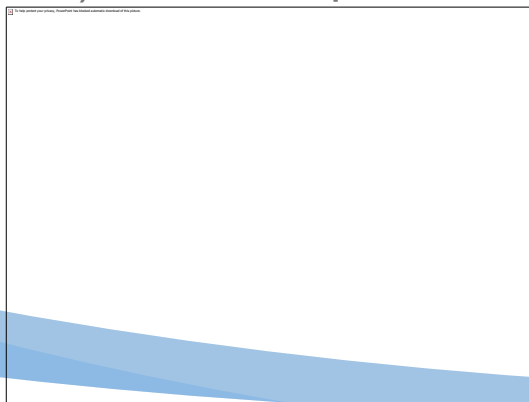
18th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources
Management (IWRM) under the Water Convention, 19-21 June 2023

Item 5. Recent developments related to transboundary water cooperation at the global level and under the Convention

Ms. Sonja Koeppel
Secretary of the Water Convention, UNECE

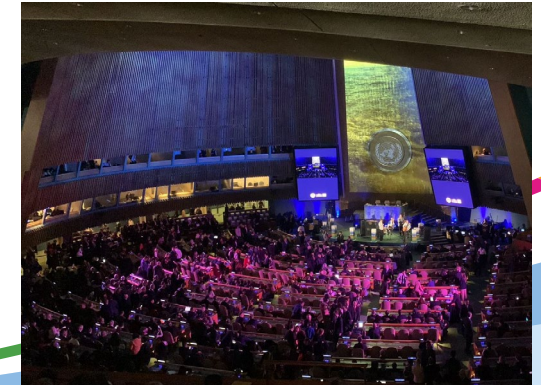
Main achievements related to transboundary water cooperation and the Water Convention resulting from the **UN Water Conference**

- **2 new countries** acceded to the Water Convention during the UN Water Conference: **Nigeria** and **Iraq**
- **10 other countries** expressed their willingness to accede, e.g. at a dedicated side event on the Convention with 11 ministers
- **UN Secretary-General urged countries to accede to the Water Convention**, the President of UN General Assembly and the UN-Water Chair also referred to the Convention
- High **visibility for transboundary water cooperation** (more than 70 countries mentioned it in plenary statements) and the importance of the Water Convention (nearly 20 mentions)



Main achievements related to transboundary water cooperation and the Water Convention resulting from the UN Water Conference

- The Water Convention secretariat supported the **interactive dialogue 4 "Water for Cooperation"** (by drafting, with UNESCO, the concept note); the UNECE Executive Secretary spoke at the dialogue as panellist
- Side event "**Speeding-up transboundary water cooperation: the value of the Water Convention**" (lead organizer: Estonia) with participation of 11 Ministers and a treaty ceremony for Nigeria
- Side event "**Regional Dialogue on Accelerating Implementation of the Water Agenda**" (lead organizer: ESCWA) with a treaty ceremony for Iraq
- Side event "**Water and adaptation to the effects of climate change in a transboundary context**" (lead organizer: Luxembourg)
- The Water Convention contributed to many other side events



Main achievements related to transboundary water cooperation and the Water Convention resulting from the **UN Water Conference**

- More than **40 commitments on transboundary cooperation** submitted to the Water Action Agenda
- 9 commitments referred to support to or accession to the Water Convention
- Commitment submitted by chair, vice chairs, lead Parties and secretariat on:
Accelerating transboundary water cooperation through increased accession to and strengthened implementation of the Water Convention
- Joint statement by the **transboundary water cooperation coalition**, read out by the President of Slovenia



Plans of the Water Convention Secretariat during the High-level Political Forum (10-19 July 2023)

- SDG 6 is under review in 2023: SDGs in focus event: **SDG 6 and interlinkages with other SDGs** (11 July 2023)
- **Contributing to Water Action Agenda Special Event** (17 July 2023)
 - Potential treaty ceremony for new Parties
- Side event: **Water-Food-Energy Nexus** amid Climate Change in the UNECE Region, submitter: UNECE (*date tbc*)
- **Side event:** The Paradox of Climate Change: Spoiler or Driver of Transboundary Water Cooperation?, lead organizer: **Slovenia** (*date tbc*)
- **Side event:** Fostering Transboundary Water Cooperation: Unlocking Multifaceted Benefits for Sustainable Development and Peace, lead organizer: **Switzerland** (*date tbc*)
- *Mention transboundary water cooperation and the Convention in your national statements in the plenary, SDG 6 events etc*

Plans of the Water Convention Secretariat during the 2023 SDG Summit (19-20 September 2023, New York)

- Aim for **2023 SDG Summit: reference to transboundary water cooperation in the political declaration** (to be adopted at SDG Summit), mentioning of the topic and the Conventions in statements and commitments
- **Possibility for** acceding countries so submit their instrument of accession at **a Treaty ceremony during the treaty days** (*tbc*)
- **Possible side event** on transboundary water cooperation (*tbc*)



Thank you!



WEB

unece.org/env/water

<https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/un-2023-water-conference>



<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023/documentation>

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